

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for making a tocopherol product, comprising:
providing a desired amount of tocopheryl succinate substance;
~~dry~~ mixing a binder with the tocopheryl succinate substance to produce a mixture;
spraying a liquid onto the mixture in a granulator;
mixing the liquid with the mixture in the granulator; and
drying the resultant mixture by a predetermined amount.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of mixing the binder is performed in the granulator.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of mixing the liquid with the mixture is accomplished in a high shear granulator.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the liquid used in the step of spraying the liquid comprises water and a binder material.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of heating the water to a temperature above about 80 degrees C before spraying the liquid onto the mixture.
7. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of heating the water to a temperature between about 80 to about 90 degrees C before spraying the liquid onto the mixture.

8. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of heating the water to a temperature below about 90 degrees C before spraying the liquid onto the mixture.

9. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of mixing the binder material and the water until the binder material becomes substantially dissolved.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the liquid used in the step of spraying the liquid includes an organic solvent and a binder material.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of mixing the organic solvent and the binder material until the binder material is substantially dissolved.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the liquid used in the step of spraying the liquid comprises an organic solvent.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the liquid used in the step of spraying the liquid comprises about 1 to about 40 percent of the total weight of the mixture.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the binder in the step of mixing the binder comprises about 0.2 to about 1.5 percent by weight of the tocopheryl succinate substance.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of establishing a bowl temperature in the granulator between about 15 to about 50 degrees C.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the bowl temperature is between about 30 to about 32 degrees C.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step of the drying the resultant mixture is accomplished by placing the resultant mixture in a stationary fluidizing bed.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of determining a moisture content of the mixture.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of tableting the mixture after the step of drying the resultant mixture.

20. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of spraying the solution is accomplished in a high shear granulator.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for making a tocopherol product, comprising:
providing a desired amount of tocopheryl succinate substance;
mixing a binder with a liquid to produce a solution;
spraying the solution onto the tocopheryl succinate substance in a high shear granulator;
mixing the solution with the tocopheryl succinate substance in the high shear granulator to produce a mixture; and
drying the mixture by a predetermined amount.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of mixing a binder material with the tocopheryl succinate substance before the step of spraying the solution.

24. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the step of mixing the binder with the liquid is mixed until the binder is substantially dissolved.

25. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the liquid used in the step of mixing the binder with the liquid comprises an organic solvent.

26. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the liquid used in the step of mixing the binder with the liquid comprises water.

27. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the solution used in the step of spraying the solution comprises about 1 to about 40 percent of the total weight of the mixture.

28. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the binder used in the step of mixing the binder comprises about 0.2 to about 1.5 percent by weight of the tocopheryl succinate substance.

29. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the step of drying the mixture is accomplished by placing the mixture in a stationary fluidizing bed.

30. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of determining a moisture content of the mixture.

31. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of tableting the mixture after the step of drying the mixture.

32. (Canceled)

33. – 41. (Canceled)

42. (Previously Presented) A method for making a tocopherol product, the method comprising:

mixing a binder solution with a tocopheryl succinate substance in a high shear granulator;
and,

drying the resultant mixture by a predetermined amount in a fluidized bed.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, further comprising the step of spraying the binder solution on the tocopheryl succinate substance prior to mixing.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the liquid comprises a cellulose based binder.